

Waldo Homes Neighborhood News

Newsletter of the Waldo Homes/Neighborhood Association — May 2005 Issue

P.O. Box 8573 ♦ Kansas City, MO ♦ 64114 ♦ www.waldohomes.org

The April Meeting

New Business in Waldo: Jake's BBQ opened in Waldo in April in the old Torres Pizza building on Wornall. One of our members expressed concern over another liquor license in the area. Many members did not express an opinion, but several were of the opinion that Jake's is a good business to have in our area and their main business is food, not as a bar, and they need the liquor license because people like to have a beer with BBQ or a drink before or after dinner.

Fireworks in our Neighborhood: Wilma Heckart brought with her, the leavings and projectiles from fireworks that were used on her street last July 4th and complained that the Police do not respond when she has called them. We discussed that the only real recourse is to call the police. However, Anita Hill had a great idea... that persons concerned about this particular issue attend the June 7th CPAC meeting with her as KCPD attends that meeting and discusses fireworks safety. The group encouraged Wilma to attend that meeting so she can be heard by the officers that actually patrol our area. We also encouraged her to take the trash and very large projectile with her to that meeting so that she can emphasize the danger involved and that it is not just firecrackers and sparklers.

CPAC Report: Anita Hill attended the Community Policing meeting on April 5th and provided us with a summary of the crimes reported in our area.

WABA Report: Laurie Hines, WHA's liaison with WABA (Waldo Area Business Association) reported the latest WABA info.

Garage Sale: Committee Chair: Susan Kreidler reported that the dates are Friday and Saturday May 20th and 21st. Susan will be ordering 2 banner type signs that can be reused, and we'll be putting out other temporary signs. Additionally, she announced that there will be a map of all of the garage sale sites in the neighborhood and that people can designate which days they'll be participating and be able to list any "big ticket" items they have for sale. The deadline for getting that info to her is Friday, May 13th. Please call and leave a message at: 363-4765 giving your name, address, telephone number, dates you'll participate, and any items you'd like to list. A PhoneTree message went out on April 14th. Another PhoneTree reminder is forthcoming.

Untidy yards in the Neighborhood: Anita Hill reported that there were 10 letters sent out and that 5 addresses had already complied. Anita has provided the list of addresses (and whether or not there has been an improvement) to the President for record-keeping purposes.

Picnic: Because Martha Dromey was the only one to volunteer to work on the annual picnic (Thank you, Martha!), a signup sheet was passed around and others then volunteered to be on the committee. By default Martha became the committee chair. So, I'd like to encourage the others to please, step up and take part. Let Martha know what you are willing to do to make the picnic happen and when you can meet to discuss it.

Speaker for June Meeting: Jackson County Executive, Katheryn Shields will be our speaker.

Waldo Grove: Bill Brown volunteered to spruce up the “Waldo Grove” with some plants and mulch.

Community Garden: Because the logistics and liability of this project seem to be more than our group is willing to tackle, this has been tabled. However, Martha Dromey pointed out that the church at 95th and Wornall has an ad for participants to work in a community garden. So, if you are interested, that might be a place to get your hands into the soil and onto some fresh produce!

Flag, Flagpole and Light at South Oak Park: Tammy Gay explained that she volunteered to look into this as a PIAC project. She has not yet had time to do so. She will report back when she has.

The Next Meeting

**May 14 ~ 10:15 am
Room A @ Waldo Library**

Agenda:

- **Minutes**
- **Treasury Report**
- **CPAC Report**
- **WABA Report**
- **Old Business**
 - Garage Sale flyers
- **New Business**
 - Mission Statement/Goal
 - Bylaws need to be updated
 - Organization Standard Operating Policies and Procedures
 - Whaddaya think?

Whaddaya Think?

So, what do you think about trying to include more of our non-member neighbors? I would like to see our membership expand, but also feel that in order to meet what seems to be our goal of a clean, safe, and unified neighborhood, that we need to reach more of our non-member neighbors... even if they choose not to join. What do you think about trying to get our newsletter out to more of the neighborhood? Mail it? Walk it? I'm willing to walk my block, are you willing to walk yours? Are you interested in Block Level organization?

----- Tammy Gay, 8216 Kenwood.

If you would like to submit an idea to “Whaddaya Think” just give it to Tammy Gay on paper or through email at tammydgay@hotmail.com and it will be put in the next newsletter. It gives folks a few days to think about it and be ready to discuss it at the meeting.

Goings-On – by Tammy Gay

Brush and Limb Pickup: The city's brush and limb pickup occurred in April. There were a few blocks missed (that I know about) around 81st and Main. One of our members, Jan Smith, called the city and local news stations. After the city customer help line was not so helpful, she called me. I also called the city and when they were once again, not so helpful, I asked whom I needed to talk to in order to get these items picked up. They put me through to the supervisor's voice mail. To my surprise, he called me back within the hour! He explained to me he was trying to sort out if one of the contractors has missed a few blocks or a large chunk. I explained that Jan could see at least 9 missed houses on her block and some on Main, and that after having talked to customer service, 81st street had also been missed. However because someone on 81st street had called before close of business on the following

Tuesday, theirs was being picked up, but 81st terrace was not. I explained that although I understood there were rules and scheduling issues for getting items picked up, it just didn't make common sense to send a truck to one block and for it not to stop at the next block. He promised he'd get it figured out. I thanked him. I checked with Jan a few days later... The brush and limbs on her block and surrounding area had been picked up the next day after our calls! It just shows that together, and with a positive attitude, we can make small changes that benefit us all.

Crime and What “Would be Crime” on the 8200 block of Kenwood: This is my block. I've introduced myself to all my neighbors and I sit on my front porch often and visit with them. I try to be mindful of cars that drive down our street and people who walk on our street to see if I recognize them as my neighbors or visitors to my neighbors. But, recently several of us got together to talk about crime on our street... not reported to the police, but we should have. Since last fall we've had one locked car broken into and a stereo stolen, (but they left a t-shirt), one unlocked car rifled through with stuff taken (then found on the corner), gas siphoned from 3 or 4 cars, and the scam where the guy comes up to the house with a story about being locked out and needing \$75 for the lock smith and saying that he lives on the next block and knows this and that neighbor – describing the house or the dogs (but not the names). Twice the same neighbor has given the guy \$5. Once, a different neighbor's son tried to follow him (the guy was in a car) but he never showed up on the block where he said he lived. And, the scariest is, yet another neighbor had come home from an evening out (it was after midnight) and was sitting out on her front porch. A car stopped, a guy got out and approached her, telling her his story about being locked out and how he knew various neighbors (by

their dogs, not their names). She told him she didn't have any money and he left... we found it odd that he didn't mention her dog (a not so friendly Chow). Our conclusion... he was casing her place and our block. Comparing descriptions, my neighbors think it might be the same guy for each of these scam events. We've agreed that we all need to keep a sharp eye AND we need to call the police immediately to report it. We're also looking into new Neighborhood Watch signs and sharing telephone numbers.

Reminders

Newsletter Articles – The newsletter needs news! If you have an article to submit or something to add to the calendar for the June issue, please submit them to Tammy Gay by Monday, May 23rd. Submissions can be on paper or through email at tammydgay@hotmail.com.

Other Info

Block Party Grants: The Block Party Grant no longer exists. The Kansas City Neighborhood Alliance (KCNA) website doesn't reflect this; it currently just has last year's info. Just thought I'd let you know.

Check it Out!

New WHA Website: Tim Gordon, our Treasurer, has gone to the trouble to learn how to create a maintain a website and has developed our new site at

www.waldohomes.org











Check it out! Thanks Tim!



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Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2	3 CPAC 4 pm 	4 Recycle Wed Trash Day 	5 Recycle Thur Trash Day 	6	7
8 Mother's Day 	9	10	11	12	13	14 WHA WHA Mtg 10:15 @Waldo Library
15	15	17	18 Recycle Wed Trash Day 	19 Recycle Thur Trash Day 	20 	21 
22	23 Newsletter Articles due for June issue 	24	25	26	27	28
29	30 Memorial Day 	31				

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